

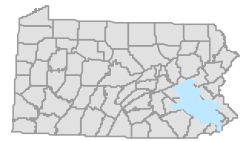
## *Rapid Watershed Assessment Schuylkill Watershed*

*Rapid watershed assessments provide initial estimates of where conservation investments would best address the concerns of landowners, conservation districts, and other community organizations and stakeholders. These assessments help landowners and local leaders set priorities and determine the best actions to achieve their goals.*



## Table of Contents

Preface .....	1
Introduction.....	2
Common Resource Areas.....	3
Elevation.....	3
Land Use.....	4
Annual Average Precipitation.....	5
National Wetland Inventory.....	5
Agriculturally Impaired Streams.....	6
Abandoned Mine Land with Abandoned Mine Drainage Impaired Streams.....	7
Urban Runoff/Storm Sewer Impaired Streams.....	8
Streams with Other Sources of Impairment.....	8
Exceptional Value and High Quality Streams.....	9
Pennsylvania Trout Waters.....	9
Total Maximum Daily Load.....	10
Water Quality Testing Points.....	10
Water Resource Points.....	11
Natural Heritage Inventory Sites.....	12
Pennsylvania Breeding Bird Atlas.....	12
Important Bird Areas.....	13
Important Mammal Areas.....	13
Soils	
Drainage Classification.....	14
Farmland Classification.....	15
Hydric Soils.....	16
Highly Erodible Land.....	17
Capability Class.....	18
Cultivated Crops on Highly Erodible Land.....	19
Cultivated Crops on Hydric Soils.....	19
Cultivated Crops on Poor or Unsited Soils.....	20
Cultivated Crops within 1000 ft of Agriculturally Impaired Streams.....	20
Resource Concerns .....	21
Performance Results System Data .....	22
Census and Social Data.....	23
Partners.....	24
Footnotes.....	25 - 27



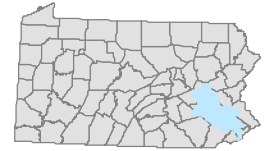
## Preface

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is initiating rapid watershed assessments in order to increase the speed and efficiency generating resource information to guide conservation implementation, as well as the speed and efficiency of putting it into the hands of local decision makers. While these rapid assessments provide less detail and analysis than full-blown studies and plans, they do provide a foundation for watershed studies or area planning. In addition, the assessments provide the benefits of NRCS locally-led planning for resource conservation and conservation program implementation in less time and at a reduced cost than more complex studies.

Rapid watershed assessments will be valuable for Farm Bill program delivery, and provide useful information for county, watershed and regional planners. These assessments provide initial estimates of where conservation investments would best address the concerns of landowners, conservation districts, and other community organizations and stakeholders. These assessments can help landowners and local leaders set priorities and determine the best actions to achieve their goals.

To produce the assessments, quantitative and qualitative data is collected and organized to create a watershed profile using Geographic Information System (GIS) technology. The data is analyzed to allow resource concerns and conditions to become apparent, and to generate maps and information to help people make better decisions about conservation needs and programs.

/s/ Craig R. Derickson  
Pennsylvania State Conservationist



## Introduction

The Schuylkill Watershed is located in southeastern Pennsylvania in portions of Berks, Bucks, Carbon, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, Philadelphia, and Schuylkill Counties. The watershed is slightly over 1,222,433 acres in size, of which approximately 269,300 acres is farmland. Six Service Centers of the Natural Resources Conservation Service, nine County Conservation Districts and parts of three Resource Conservation and Development Council offices provide assistance to this watershed.





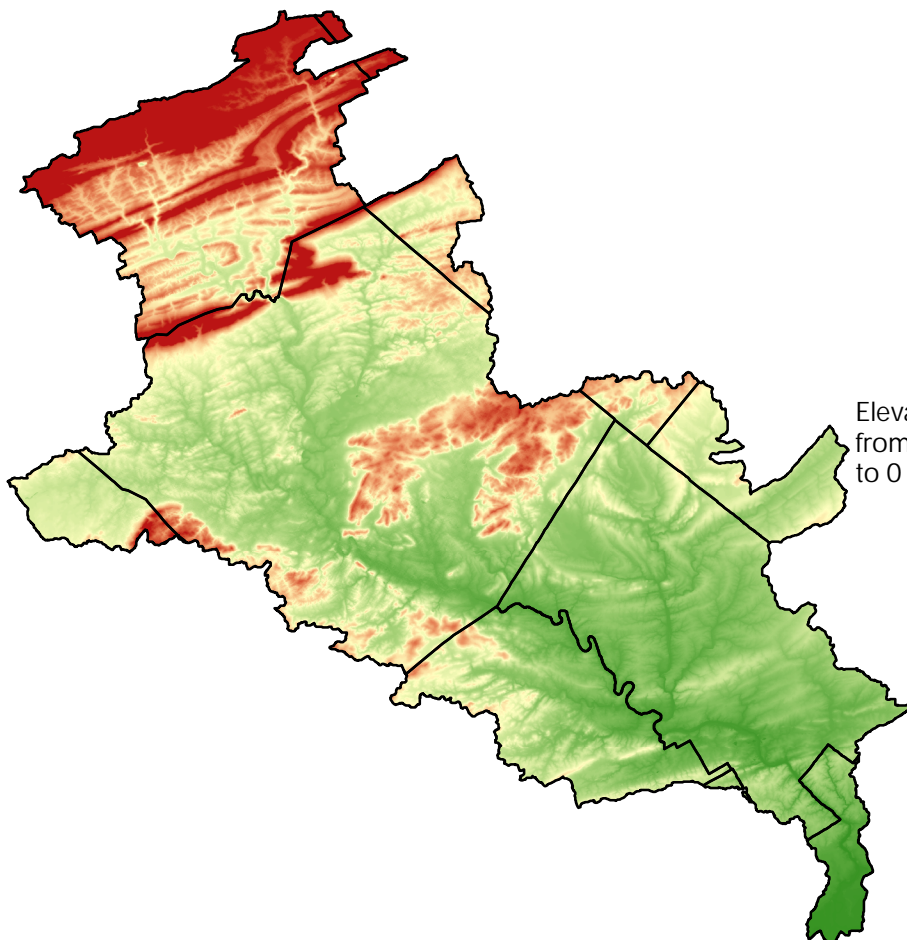
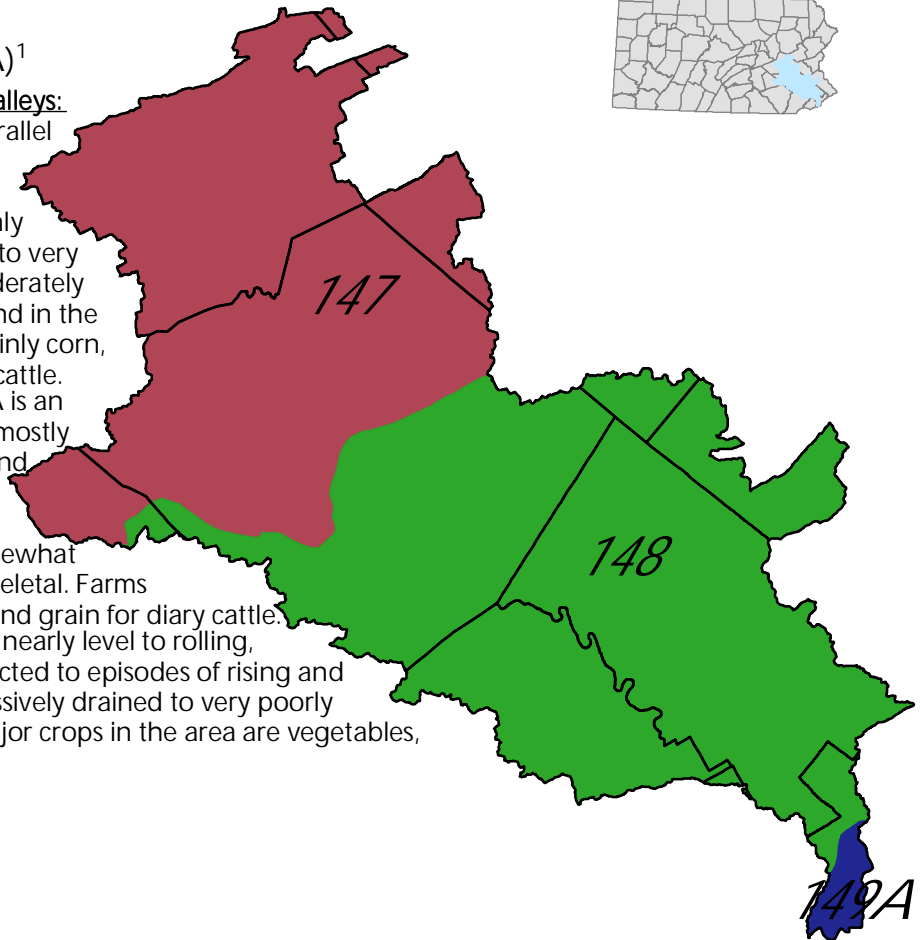
### Common Resource Area (CRA)<sup>1</sup>

#### 147 - Northern Appalachian Ridges and Valleys:

This CRA is a folded and faulted area of parallel ridges and valleys. The ridges are strongly sloping to extremely steep and have narrow, rolling crests. The valleys are mainly level to strongly sloping. Soils are shallow to very deep, generally excessively drained to moderately well drained, and loamy or clayey. Cropland in the area is used for a wide variety of crops, mainly corn, small grain, and forage for dairy and beef cattle.

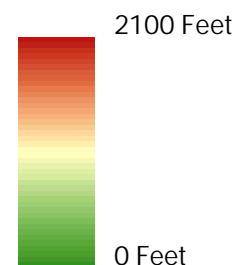
148 - Northern Piedmont: Most of the CRA is an eroded part of the Piedmont Plateau. It is mostly gently sloping or sloping. Intrusive dikes and sills form fairly sharp ridges within the less steep terrain. Soils are moderately deep to very deep, moderately well drained to somewhat excessively drained, and loamy to loamy-skeletal. Farms are mostly crops, forage crops, soybeans, and grain for dairy cattle.

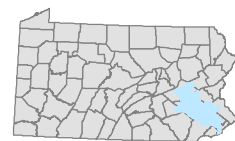
149A - Northern Coastal Plain: This CRA is nearly level to rolling, dissected coastal plain that has been subjected to episodes of rising and falling sea levels. Soils are very deep, excessively drained to very poorly drained, and primarily loamy or sandy. Major crops in the area are vegetables, corn, soybeans, small grains, and fruits.



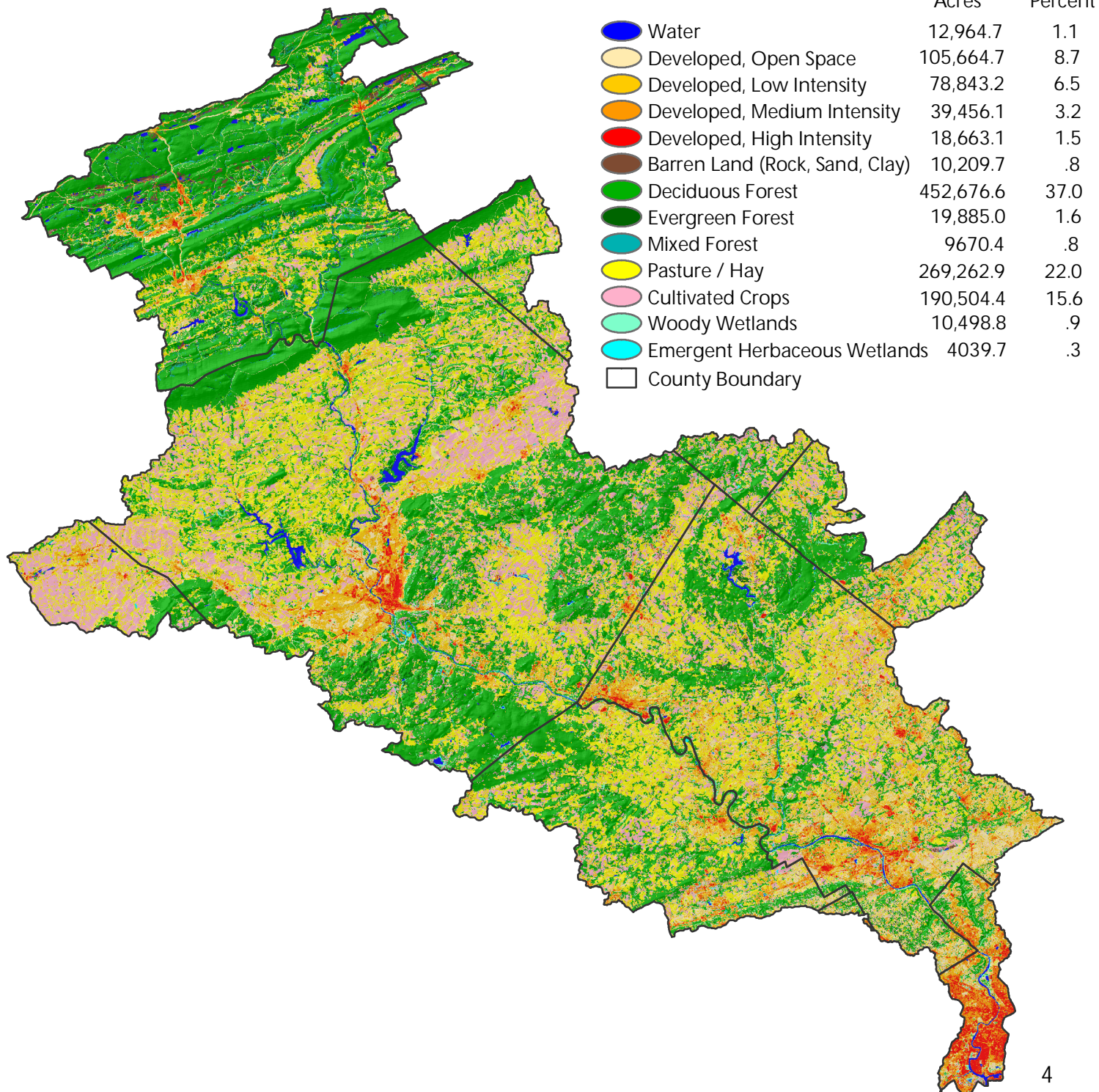
### Elevation<sup>2</sup>

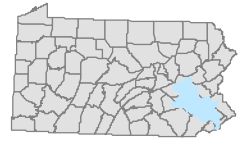
Elevation in the Schuylkill Watershed ranges from 2100 feet (640 meters) at its high point to 0 feet (0 meters) at a low point.



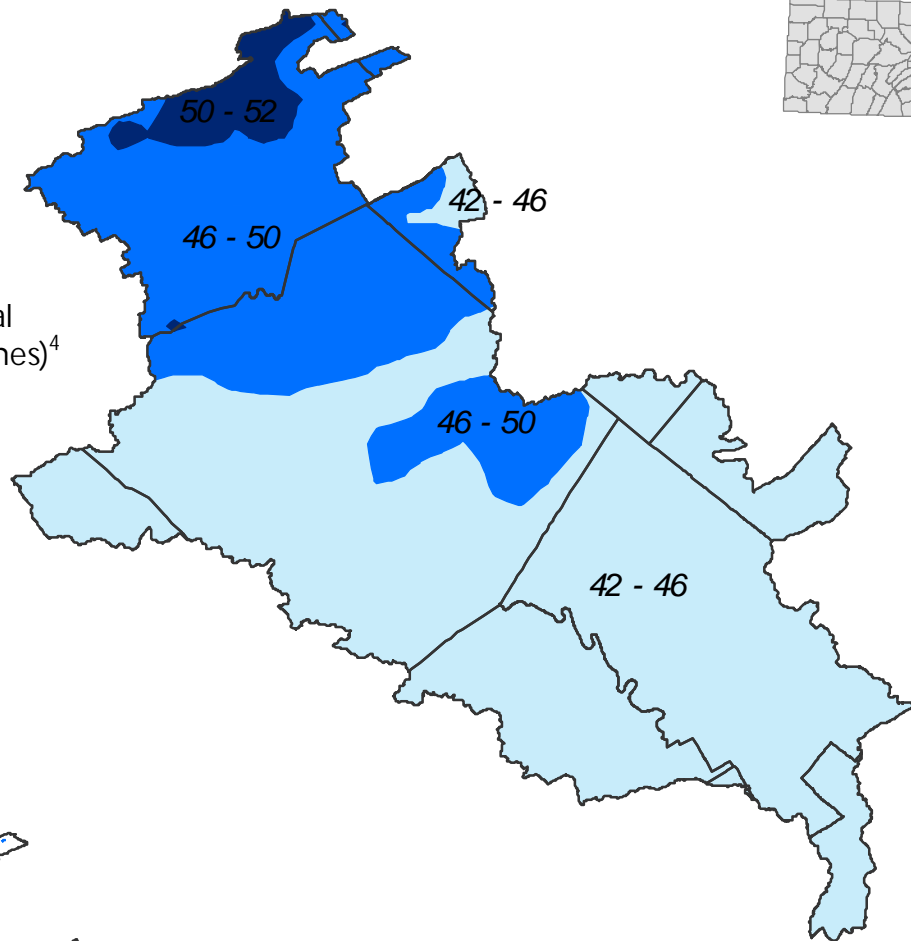


## Land Use / Land Cover 2001<sup>3</sup>





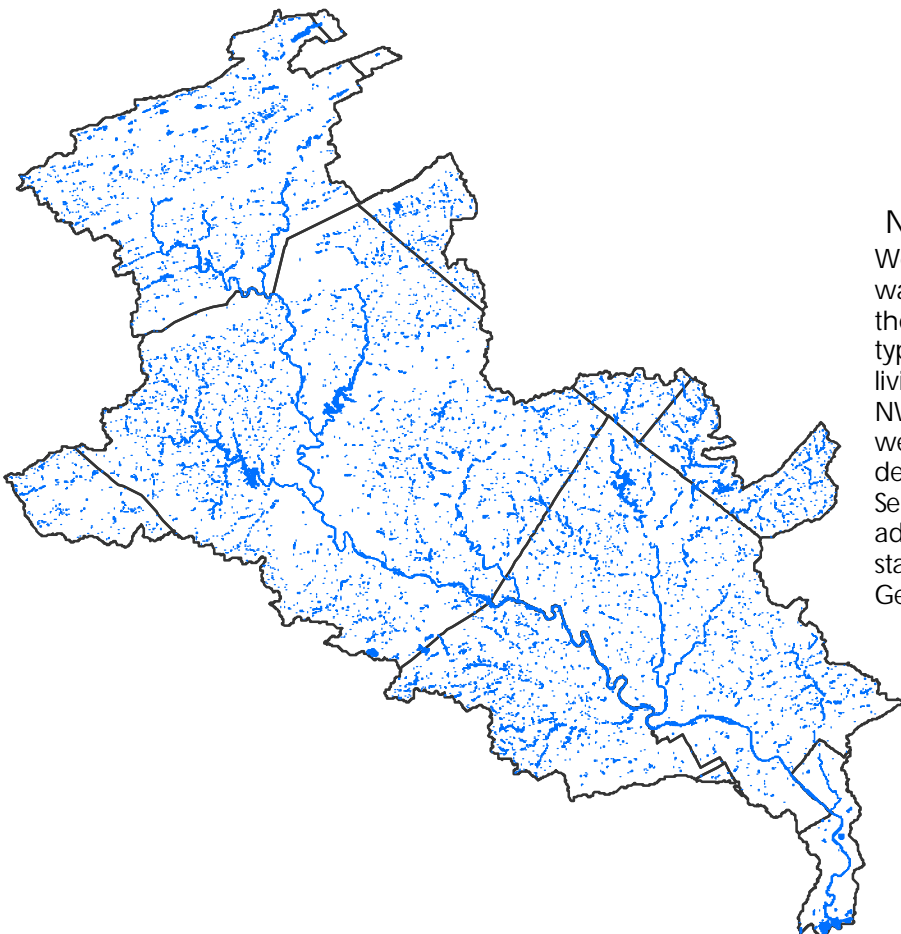
Average Annual  
Precipitation (Inches)<sup>4</sup>



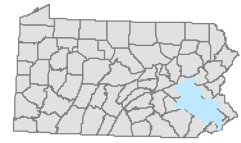
#### National Wetlands Inventory<sup>5</sup>

Wetlands are lands where saturation with water is the dominant factor determining the nature of soil development and the types of plant and animal communities living in the soil and on its surface. NWI digital data files are records of wetlands location and classification as developed by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. The classification system was adopted as a national classification standard in 1996 by the Federal Geographic Data Committee.

 National Wetlands Inventory





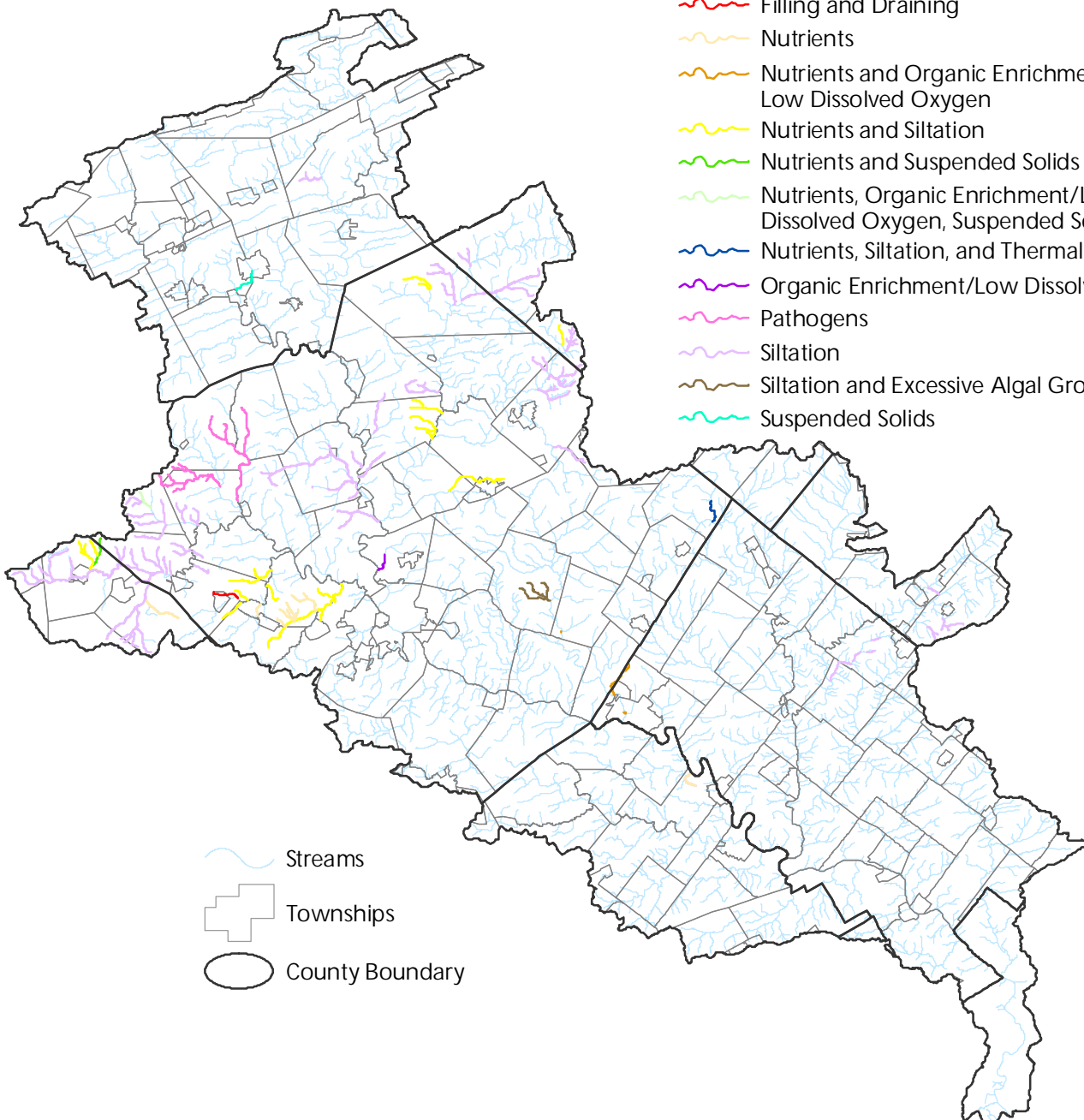


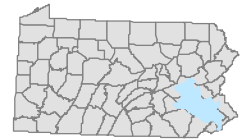
## Impaired Streams<sup>6</sup>

The Streams Integrated List represents stream assessments in an integrated format for the Clean Water Act Section 305(b) reporting and Section 303(d) listing. PA Department of Environmental Protection protects 4 stream water uses: aquatic life, fish consumption, potable water supply, and recreation. The 305(b) layers represents stream segments that have been evaluated for attainment of those uses and determine which streams are non-attaining.

### Causes of Agriculturally Impaired Streams:

-  Filling and Draining
-  Nutrients
-  Nutrients and Organic Enrichment/  
Low Dissolved Oxygen
-  Nutrients and Siltation
-  Nutrients and Suspended Solids
-  Nutrients, Organic Enrichment/Low  
Dissolved Oxygen, Suspended Solids,
-  Nutrients, Siltation, and Thermal Modifications
-  Organic Enrichment/Low Dissolved Oxygen
-  Pathogens
-  Siltation
-  Siltation and Excessive Algal Growth
-  Suspended Solids



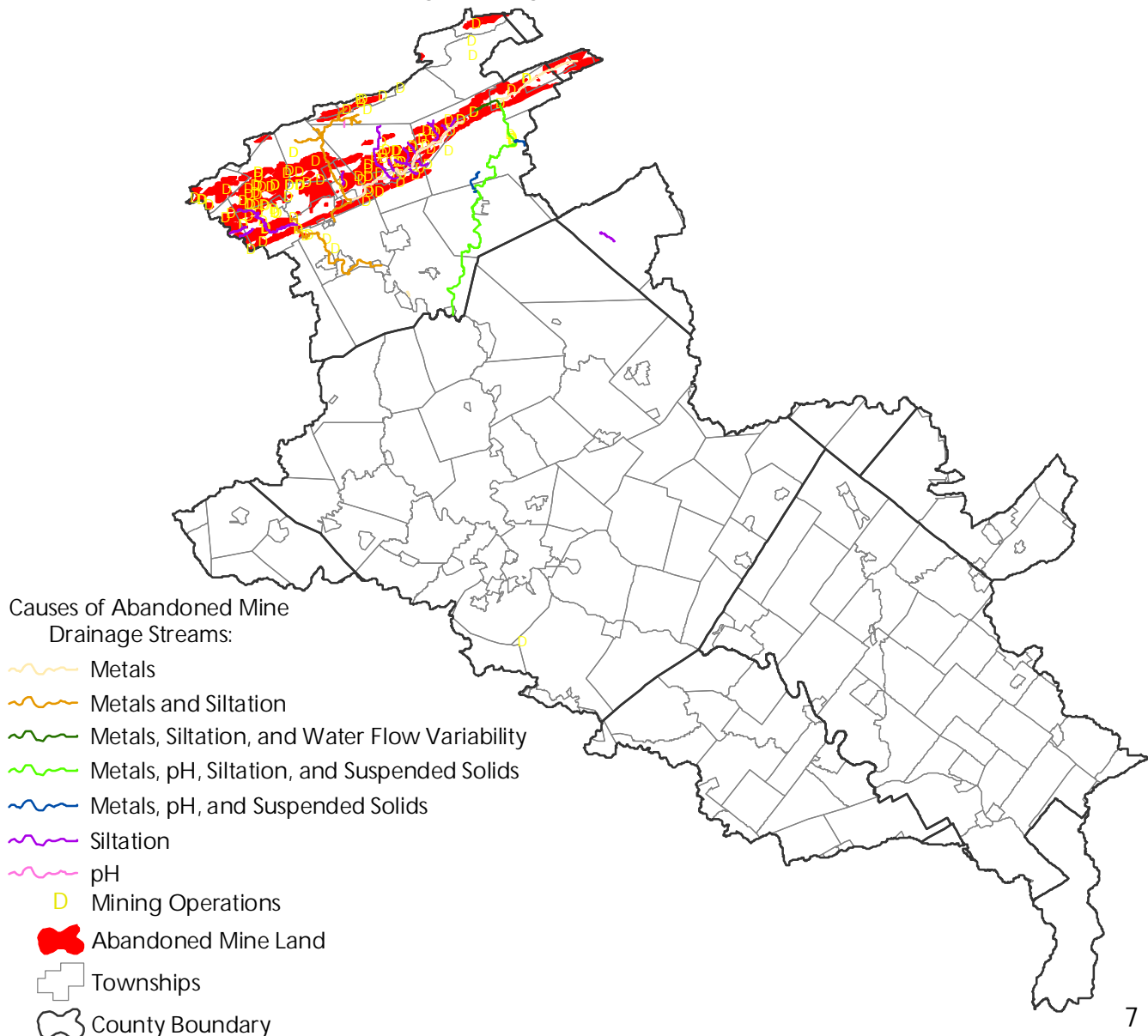


## Abandoned Mine Land and Abandoned Mine Drainage Impaired Streams<sup>7</sup>

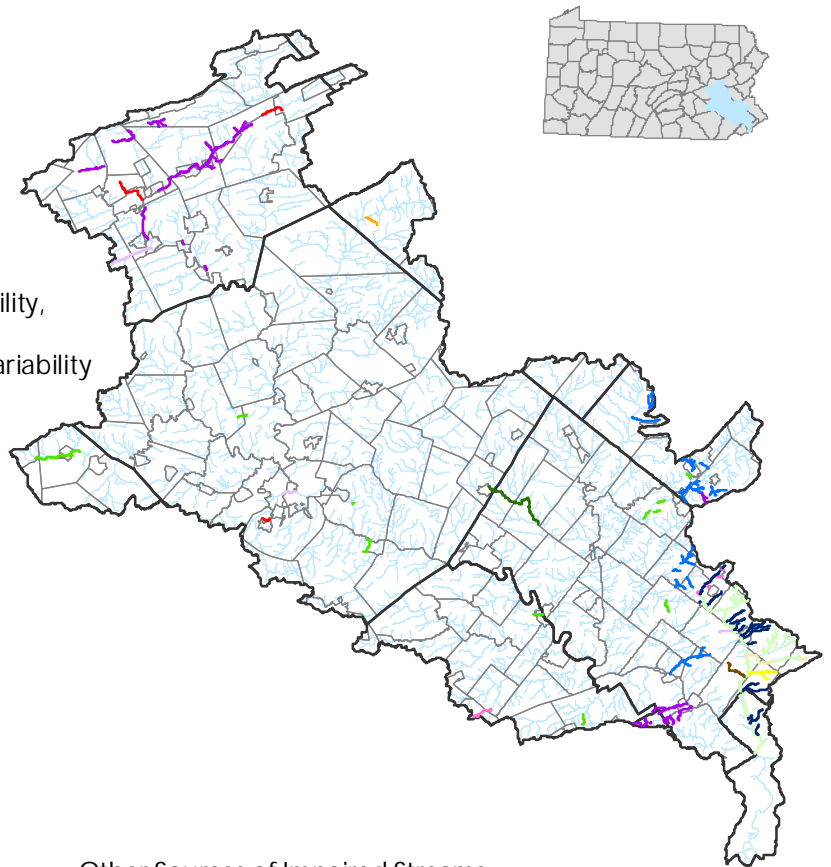
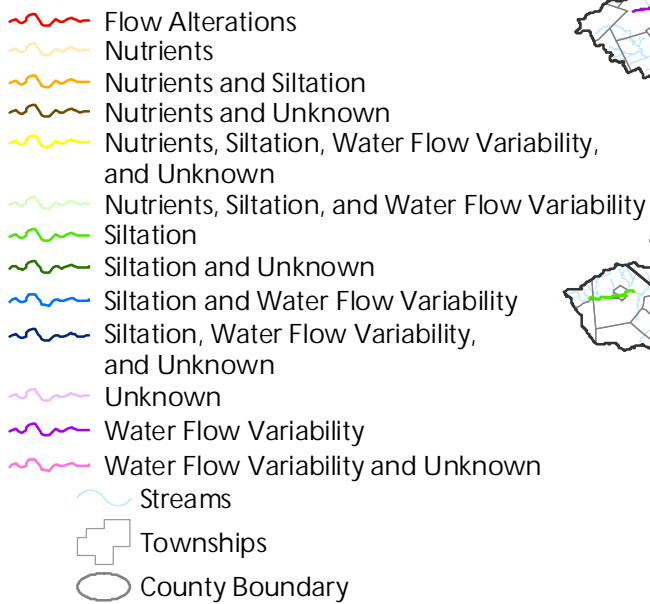
Coal mining in Pennsylvania began in the mid-1700's. Pennsylvania is the fourth largest coal producer in the United States, producing over 69.5 million tons in 1995 in 878 mining operations.

The environmental legacy of hundreds of years of coal mining in PA includes over 2,400 miles of PA's 84,000 miles of streams effected by acid mine drainage from old coal mining operations. Acid mine drainage in the single largest source of water pollution in the state.

Since 1967, Pennsylvania and the federal government have invested close to \$500 million to correct problems from abandoned surface and deep mines. There are acid mine drainage treatment plants around the state to treat acid mine drainage discharges.

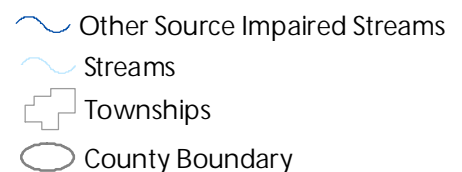
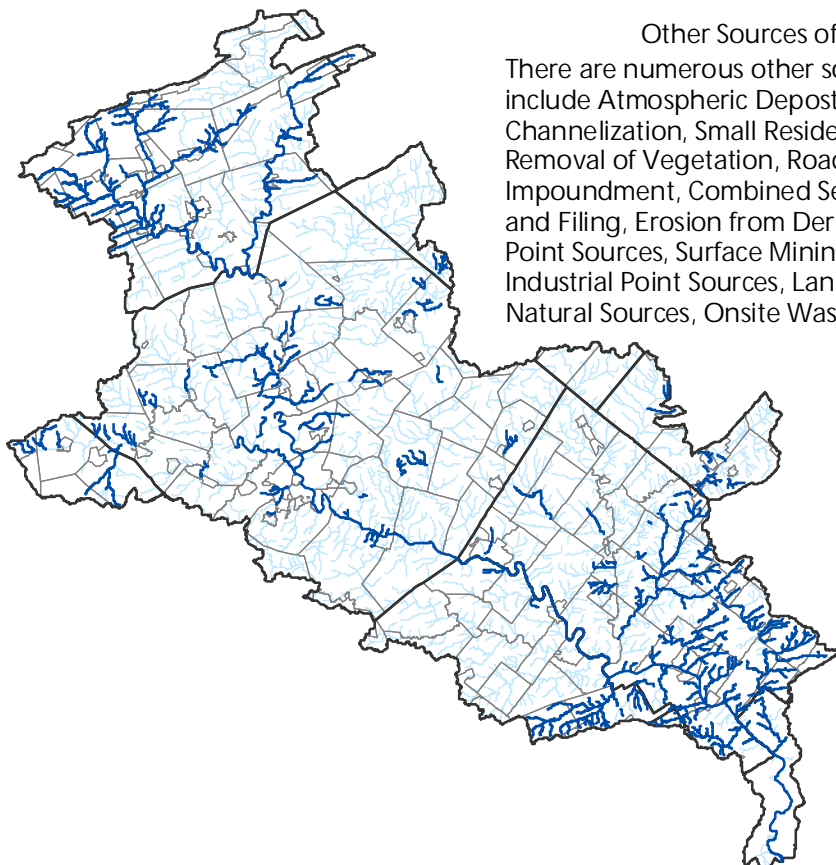


Causes of Urban Runoff/Storm Sewer Impaired Streams:



Other Sources of Impaired Streams:





There are numerous other sources of impaired sources. They include Atmospheric Deposition, Bank Modifications, Channelization, Small Residential Runoff, Habitat Modifications, Removal of Vegetation, Road Runoff, Dredging, Upstream Impoundment, Combined Sewer Overflow, Construction, Draining and Filling, Erosion from Derelict Land, Golf Courses, Municipal Point Sources, Surface Mining, Other, Hydromodifications, Industrial Point Sources, Land Development, Land Disposal, Natural Sources, Onsite Wastewater, and Unknown.

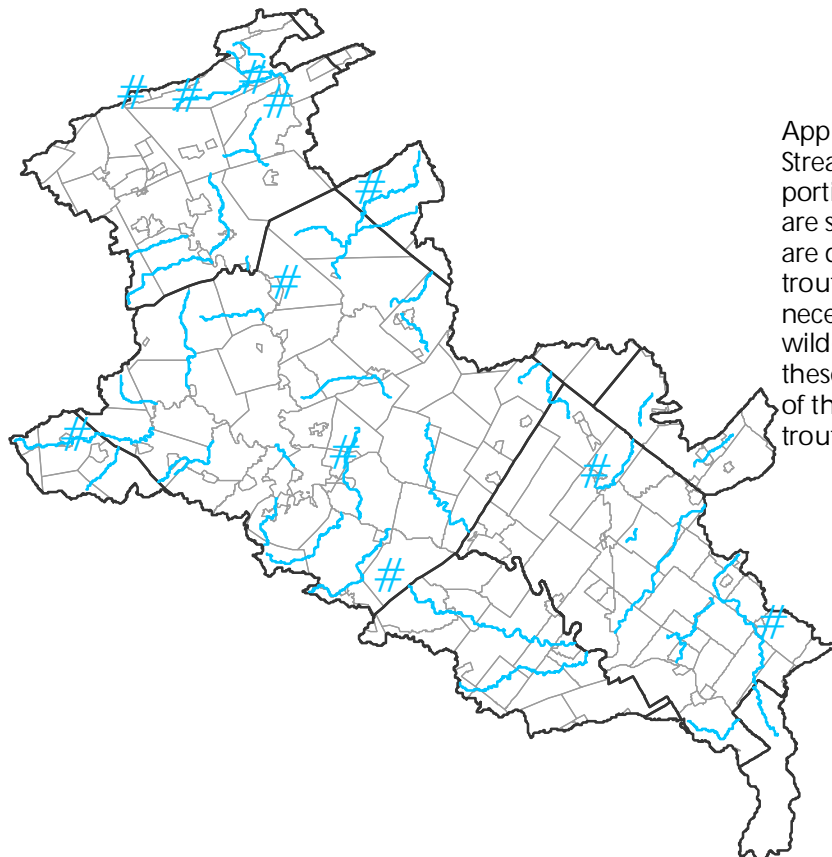
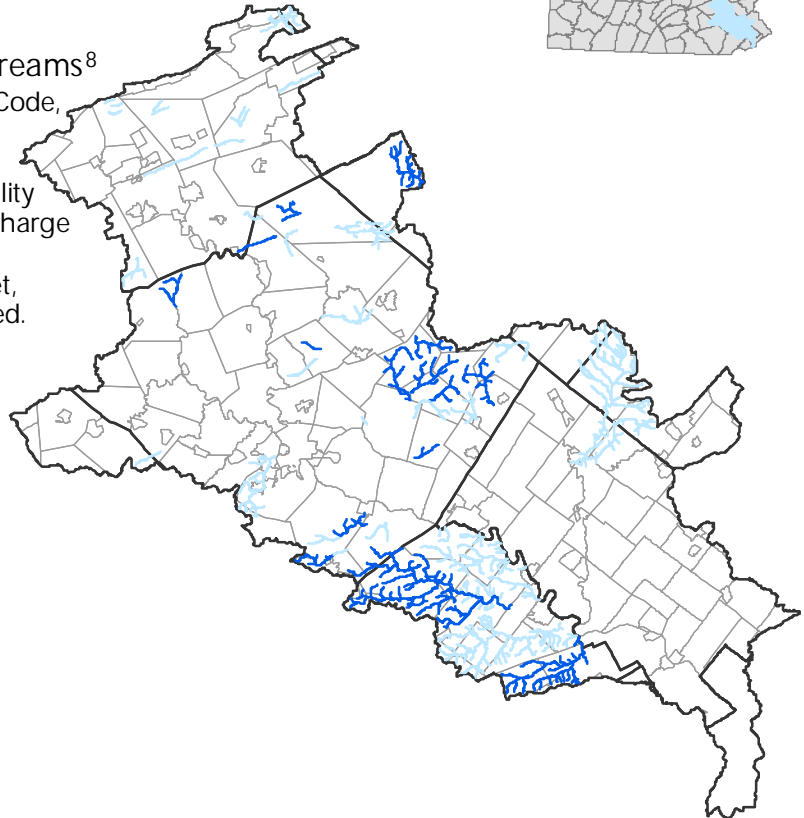




### Exceptional Value and High Quality Streams<sup>8</sup>





In accordance with Chapter 93 of Pennsylvania Code, streams with excellent water quality may be designated High Quality Waters (HQ) or Exceptional Value Waters (EV). The water quality in an HQ stream can be lowered only if a discharge is the result of necessary social or economic development, the water quality criteria are met, and all existing uses of the stream are protected. EV waters are to be protected at their existing quality; water quality shall not be lowered.

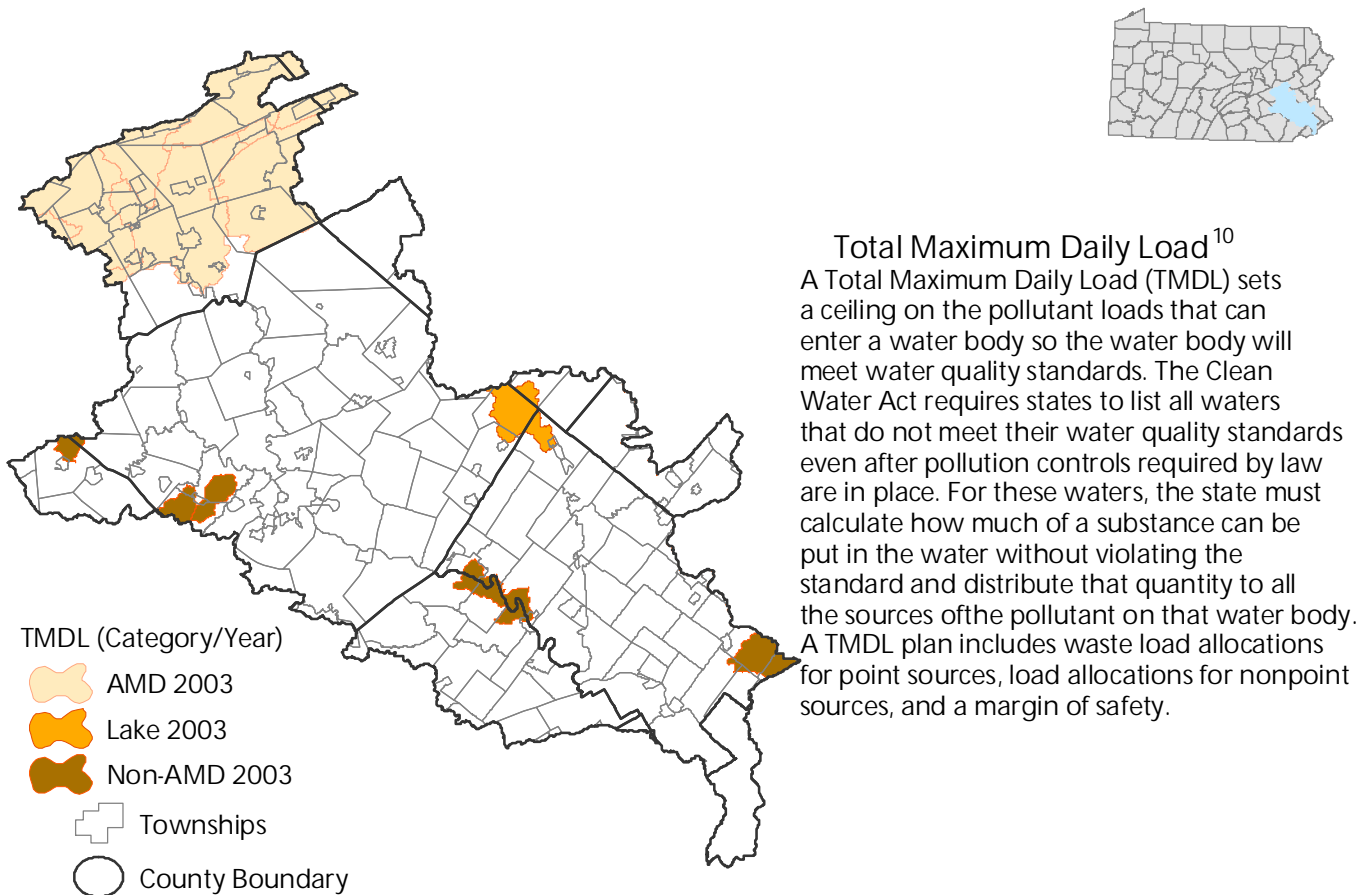
-  Exceptional Value Streams
-  High Quality Streams
-  Townships
-  County Boundary



### Pennsylvania Trout Waters<sup>9</sup>

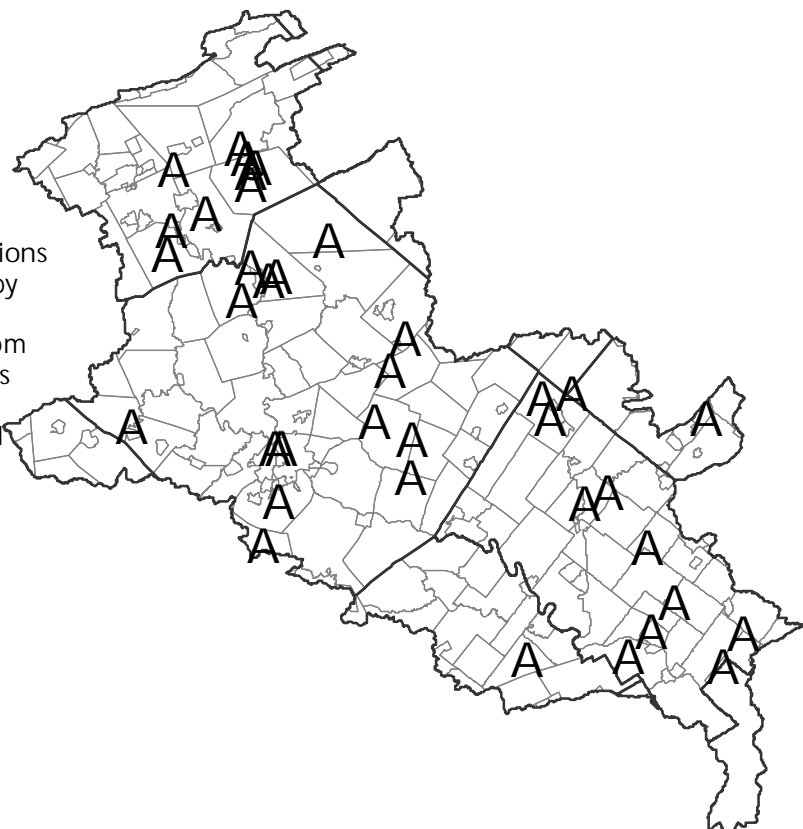
Approved Trout Waterbodies and Approved Trout Streams are waters which contain significant portions that are open to the public for fishing and are stocked with trout. Wilderness Trout Streams are designed to protect and promote native (brook trout) fisheries, the ecological requirements necessary for natural reproduction of trout and wilderness aesthetics. The superior quality of these watersheds is considered an important part of the overall angling experience on wilderness trout streams.

-  Approved Trout Waterbodies
-  Approved Trout Streams
-  Townships
-  County Boundary

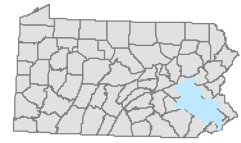


**Water Quality Testing Points<sup>11</sup>**

The water quality testing points are locations at which the water quality is monitored by volunteers. A database of these points contains information on water quality from 1986 to the present from 622 testing sites throughout Pennsylvania. Information in records includes at least alkalinity and pH and includes nitrates and phosphates for some sites since 1996.







### Water Resource Points<sup>12</sup>

A Water Resource is a DEP primary facility type related to the Water Use Planning Program. The sub-facility types related to Water Resources that are included are:

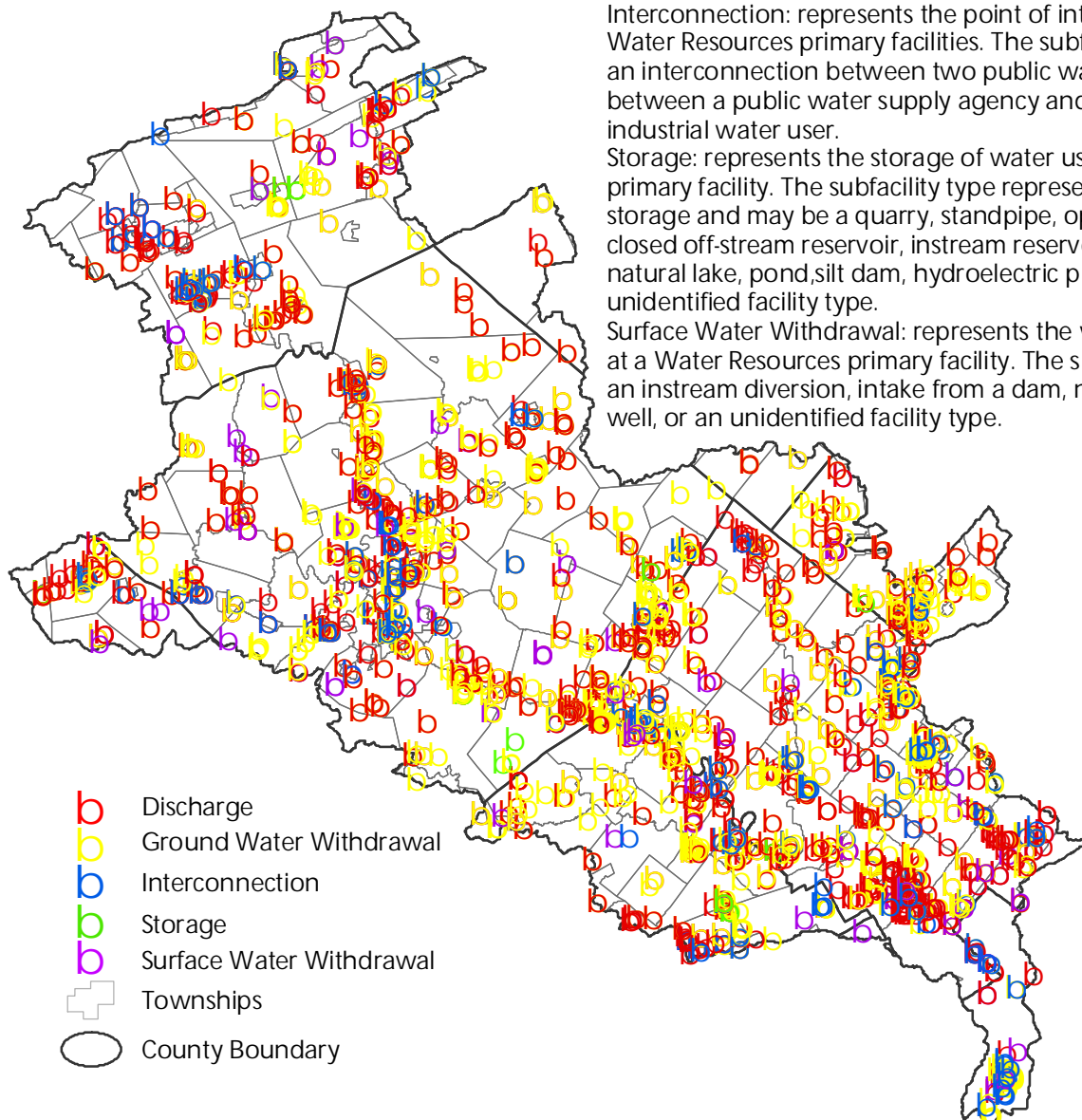
**Discharge:** represents the return of water used at a Water Resources primary facility. The subfacility type may be a sewage treatment plant, instream discharge, spray irrigation field, groundwater recharge, on-lot septic or an unidentified facility type.

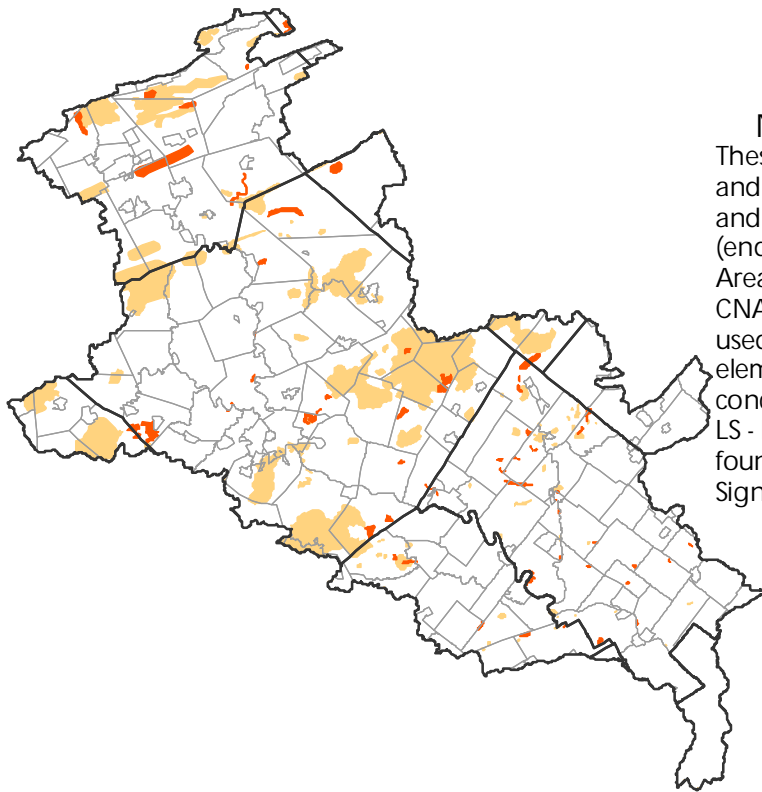
**Ground Water Withdrawal:** represents the withdrawal of water used at a Water Resources primary facility. The subfacility type may be a well, spring, quarry, infiltration gallery, deep mine, surface mine or an unidentified facility type.

**Interconnection:** represents the point of interconnection between Water Resources primary facilities. The subfacility type may be for an interconnection between two public water supply agencies or between a public water supply agency and a commercial or industrial water user.

**Storage:** represents the storage of water used at a Water Resources primary facility. The subfacility type represents raw or treated water storage and may be a quarry, standpipe, open off-stream reservoir, closed off-stream reservoir, instream reservoir, hydroelectric dam, natural lake, pond, silt dam, hydroelectric pumped storage or an unidentified facility type.

**Surface Water Withdrawal:** represents the withdrawal of water used at a Water Resources primary facility. The subfacility type may be an instream diversion, intake from a dam, natural lake, pond, river well, or an unidentified facility type.





### Natural Heritage Inventory Sites<sup>13</sup>





These areas are intended to identify outstanding floral, faunal, and geologic features, including natural communities (habitats) and locations of animal and plant species of special concern (endangered, threatened, or rare).

Area Types in this watershed include:

CNA - County Natural Area. This is the designation formerly used by the Eastern Office of PNHP for sites that contain elements - exemplary natural communities or species of concern as tracked by PNHP.

LS - Locally Significant: Site was not surveyed or was not found to contain PNHP elements, but is considered Locally Significant.



#### Natural Heritage Inventory Sites

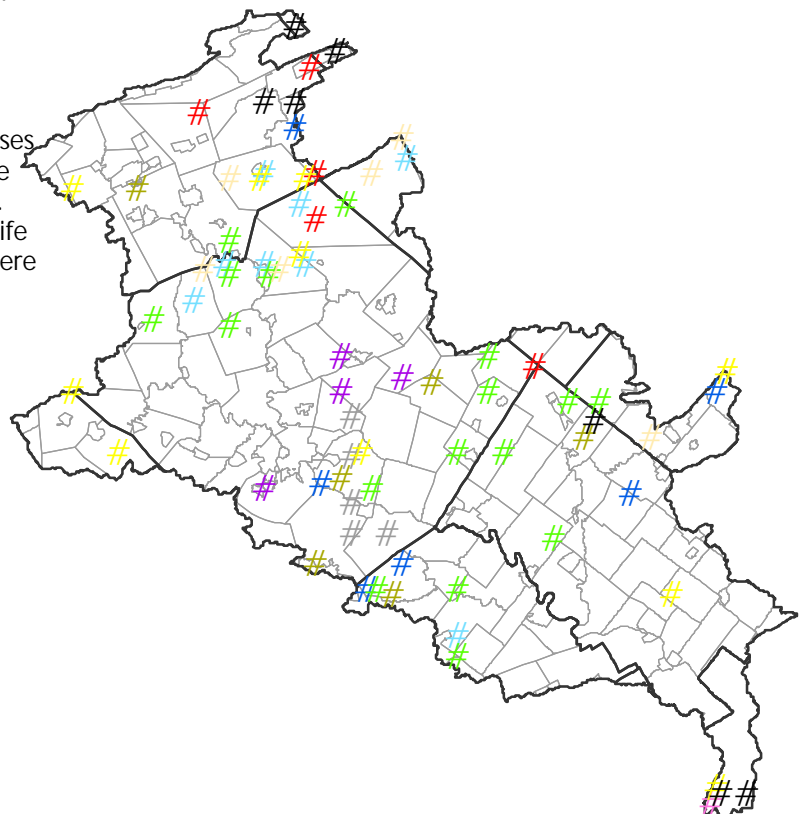
-  CNA
-  LS
-  Townships
-  County Boundary

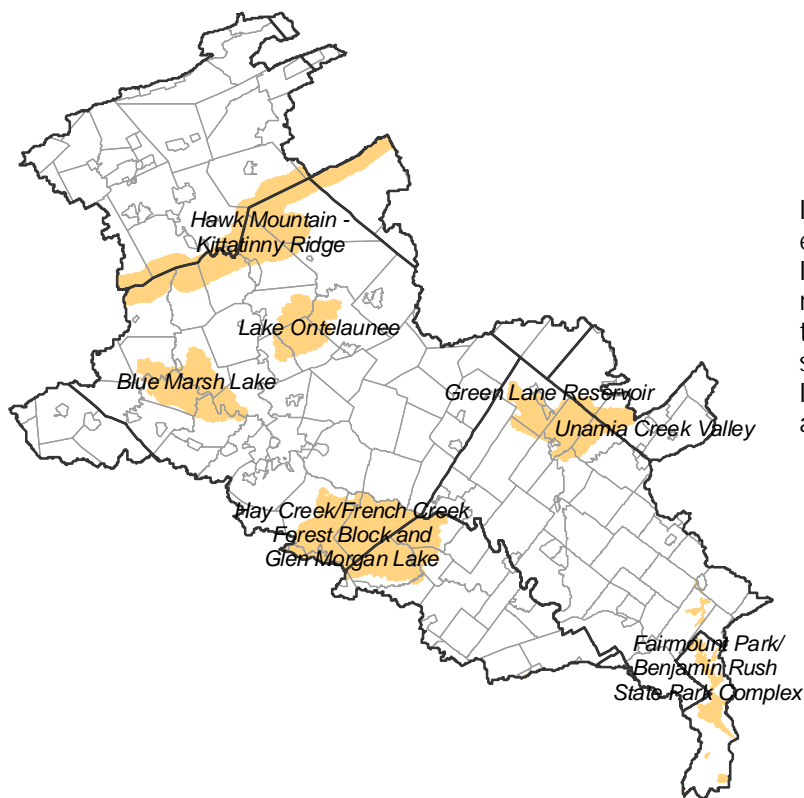
### Pennsylvania Breeding Bird Atlas<sup>14</sup>

The 1st Pennsylvania Breeding Bird Atlas (1992) assesses the distribution of breeding birds across the state. The areas below are confirmed breeding areas for species. Fourteen birds species from Pennsylvania's state Wildlife Action Plan associated with agricultural landscapes were focused on in this assessment, not all have confirmed breeding area in this watershed.

- # American Woodcock
- # Barn Owl
- # Blackbilled Cuckoo
- # Bobolink
- # Eastern Meadowlark
- # Grasshopper Sparrow
- # Northern Bobwhite
- # Northern Harrier
- # Redheaded Woodpecker
- # Whip-poor-will
- # Yellow Breasted Chat

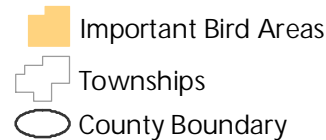
-  Townships
-  County Boundary





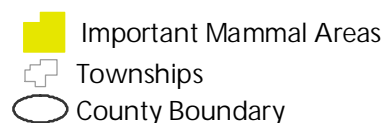
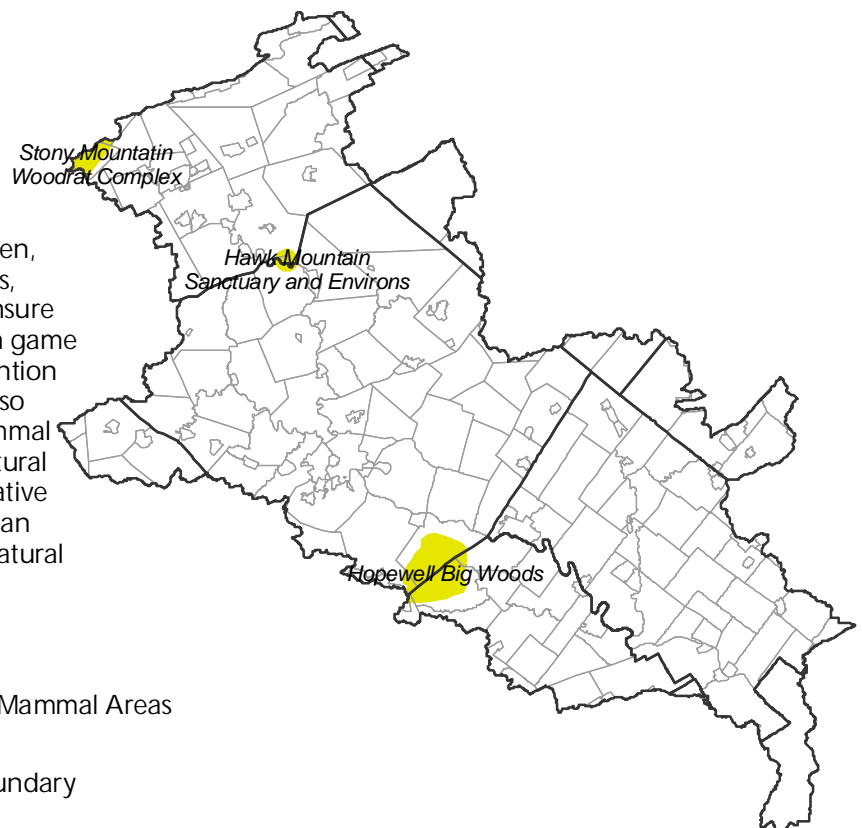
### Important Bird Areas<sup>15</sup>

Important Bird Areas (IBA) are sites that provide essential habitat for one or more species of bird. IBAs include sites for breeding, wintering, and/or migrating birds. IBAs may be a few acres or thousands of acres, but usually they are discrete sites that stand out from the surrounding landscape. IBAs may include public or private lands, or both, and they may be protected or unprotected.



### Important Mammal Areas<sup>16</sup>

The Important Mammal Areas Project is being carried out by a broad based alliance of sportsmen, conservation organizations, wildlife professionals, and scientists. The primary concern is to help ensure the future of Pennsylvania's wild mammals, both game and non-game species. Although particular attention is given to species of special concern, they are also interested in habitats that simply have high mammal diversity. Because a commitment to preserve natural heritage requires understanding the needs of native species, they also identify places where people can learn about mammals and enjoy them in their natural environment.

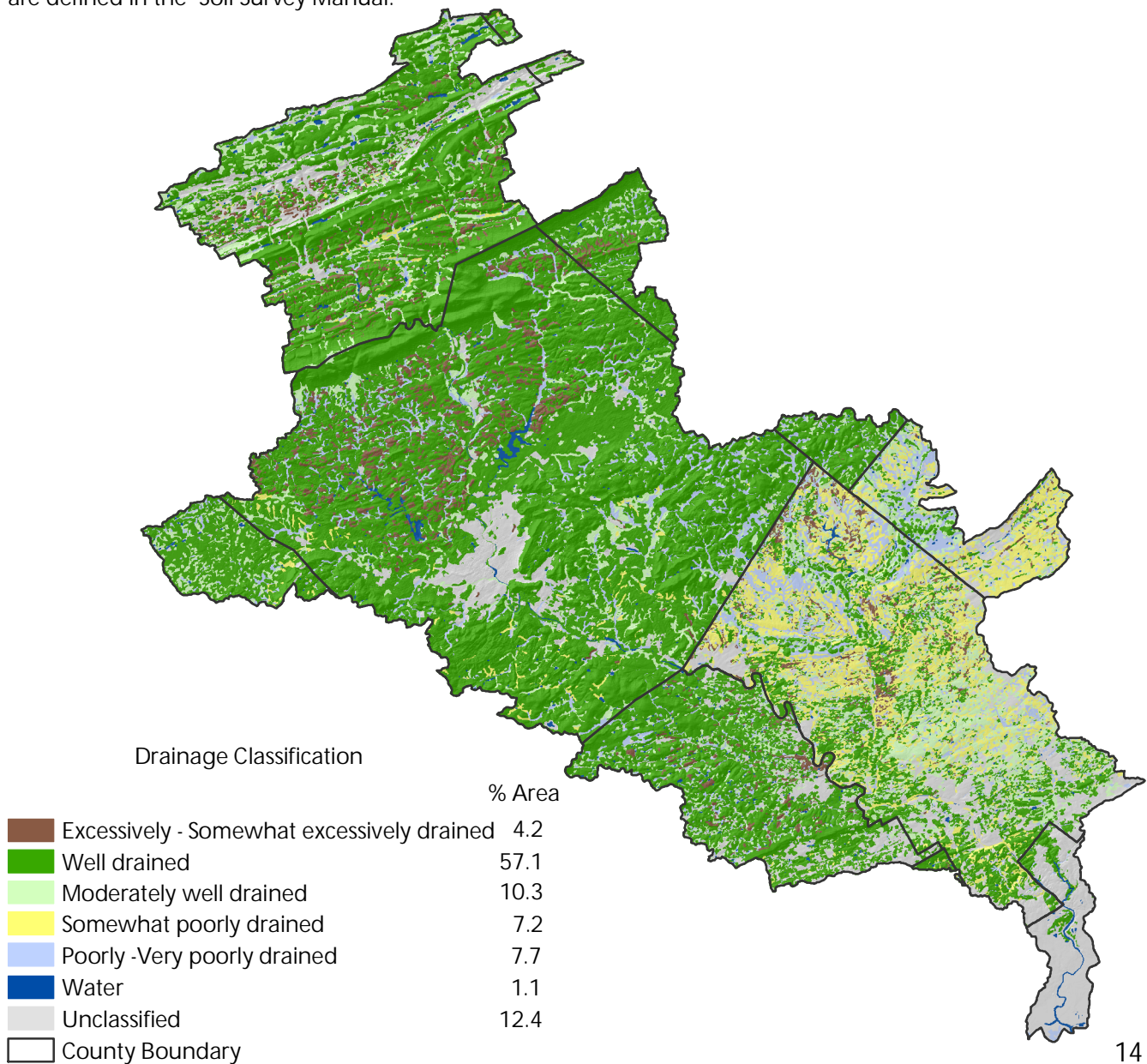


## Soils<sup>17</sup>

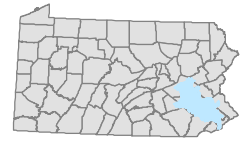


### Drainage Classification

Drainage class (natural) refers to the frequency and duration of wet periods under conditions similar to those under which the soil formed. Alterations of the water regime by human activities, either through drainage or irrigation, are not a consideration unless they have significantly changed the morphology of the soil. Seven classes of natural soil drainage are recognized -- excessively drained, somewhat excessively drained, well drained, moderately well drained, somewhat poorly drained, poorly drained, and very poorly drained. These classes are defined in the "Soil Survey Manual."

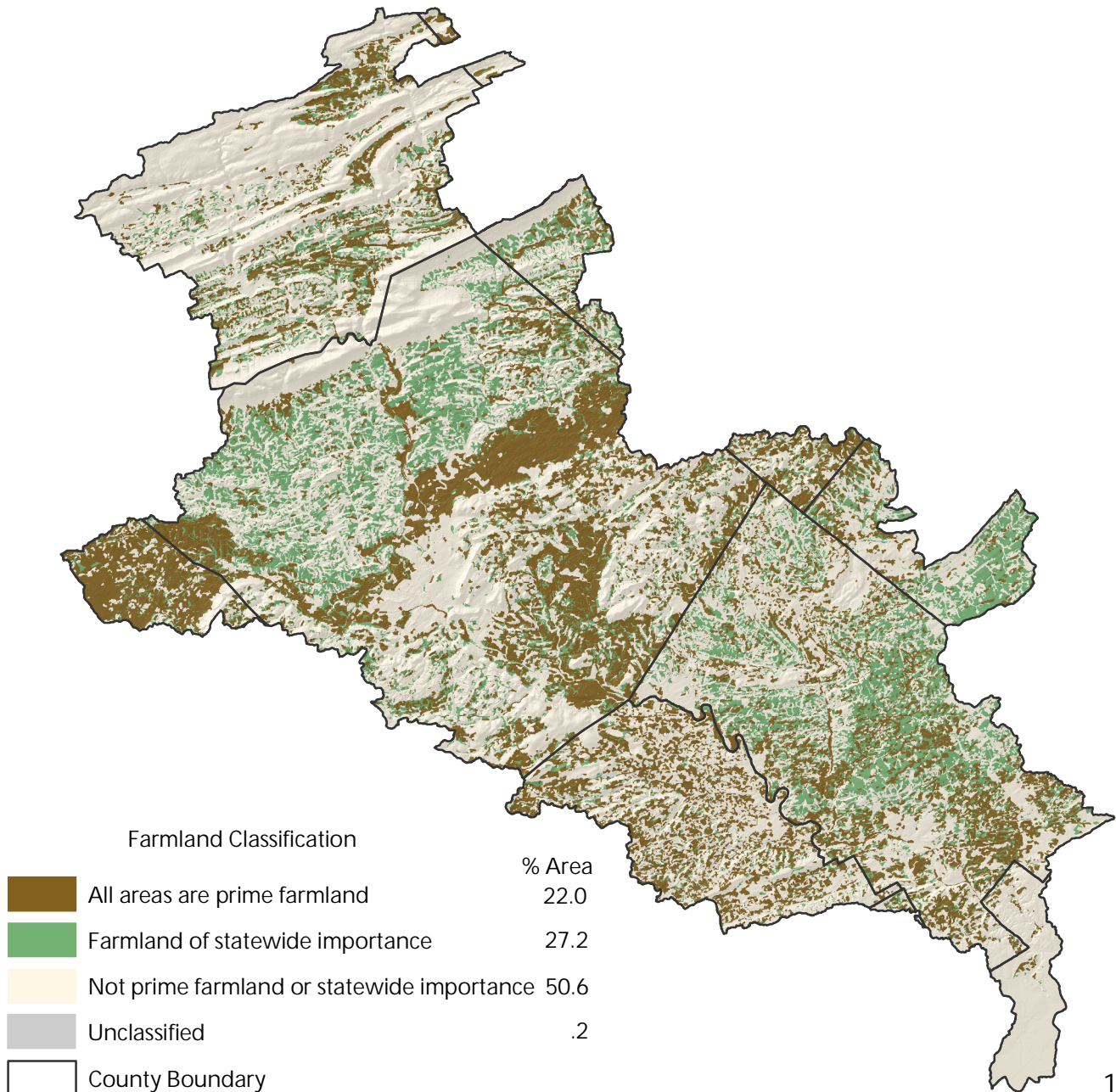


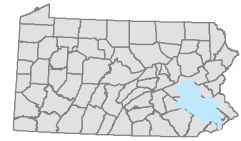




### Farmland Classification

Farmland classification identifies soil map units as prime farmland, farmland of statewide importance, farmland of local importance, or unique farmland. Farmland classification identifies the location and extent of the most suitable land for producing food, feed, fiber, forage, and oilseed crops. NRCS policy and procedures on prime and unique farmlands are published in the Federal Register, Vol. 43, No. 21, January 31, 1978.

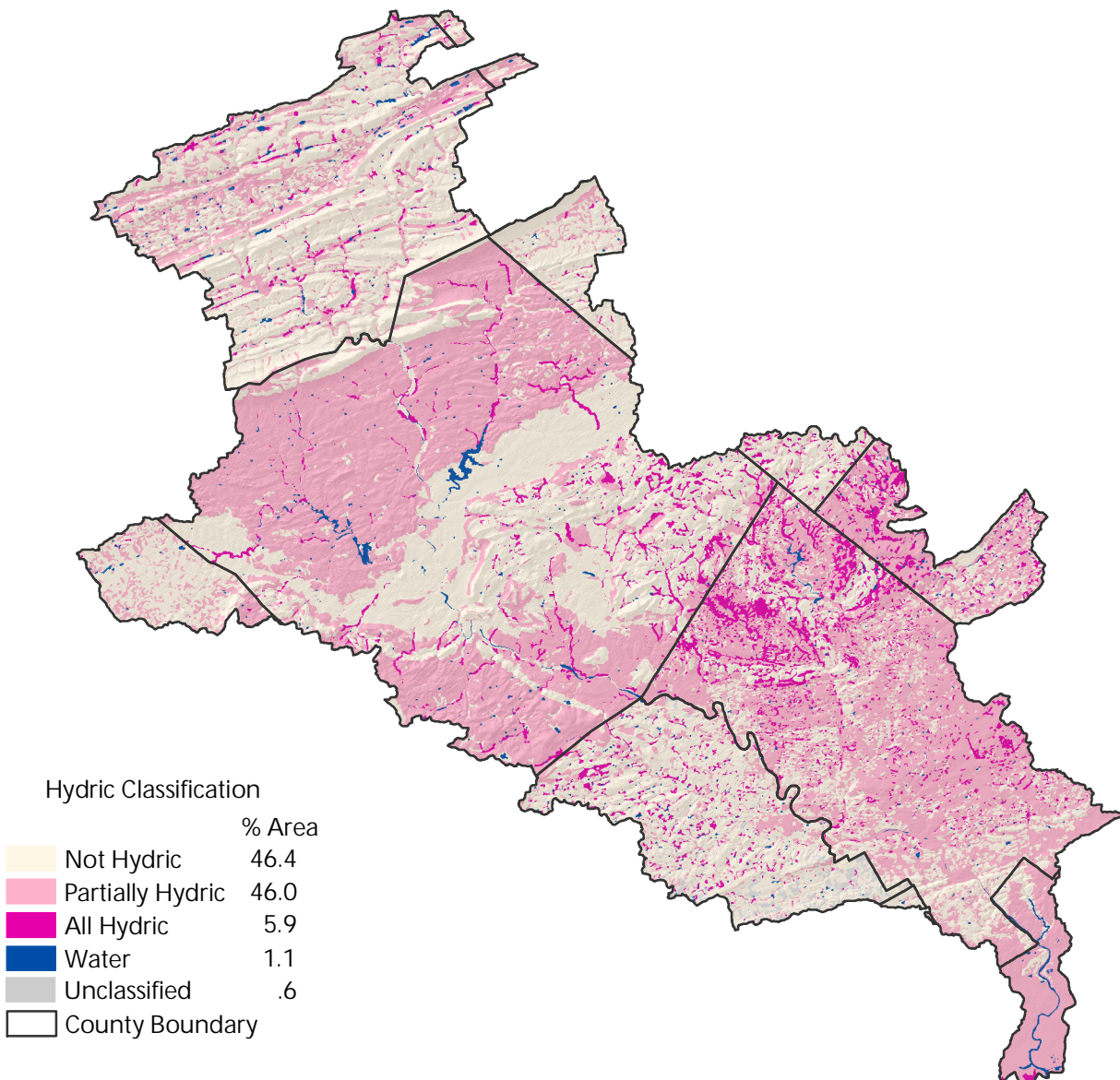




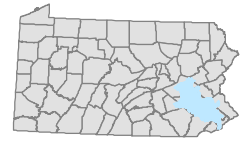
## Hydric Soil Classification

This rating provides an indication of the proportion of the map unit that meets criteria for hydric soils. Map units that are dominantly made up of hydric soils may have small areas, or inclusions, of nonhydric soils in the higher positions on the landform, and map units dominantly made up of nonhydric soils may have inclusions of hydric soils in the lower positions on the landform.

Hydric soils are defined by the National Technical Committee for Hydric Soils (NTCHS) as soils that formed under conditions of saturation, flooding, or ponding long enough during the growing season to develop anaerobic conditions in the upper part (Federal Register, 1994). These soils, under natural conditions, are either saturated or inundated long enough during the growing season to support the growth and reproduction of hydrophytic vegetation.

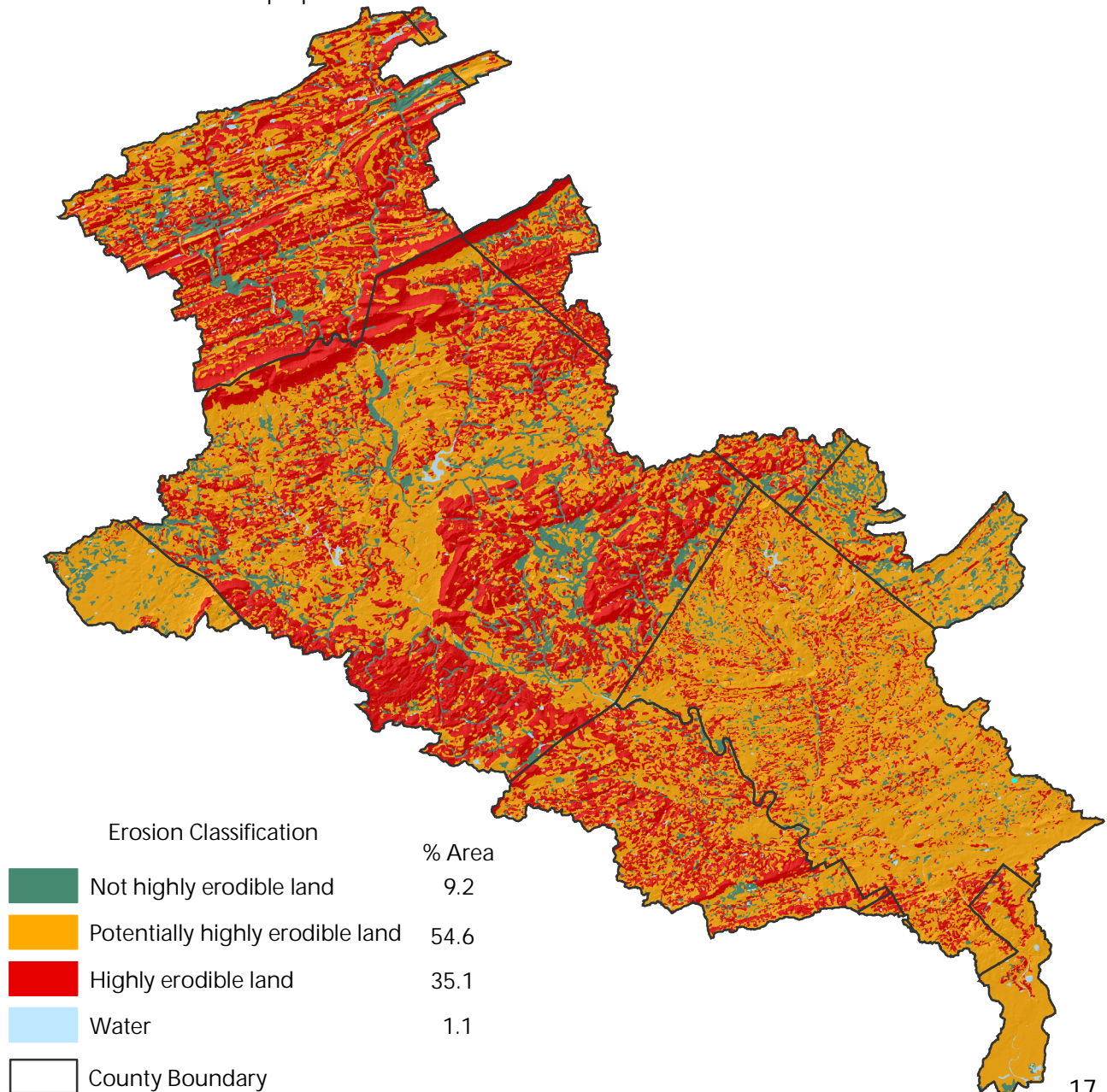


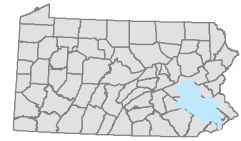




## Highly Erodible Land

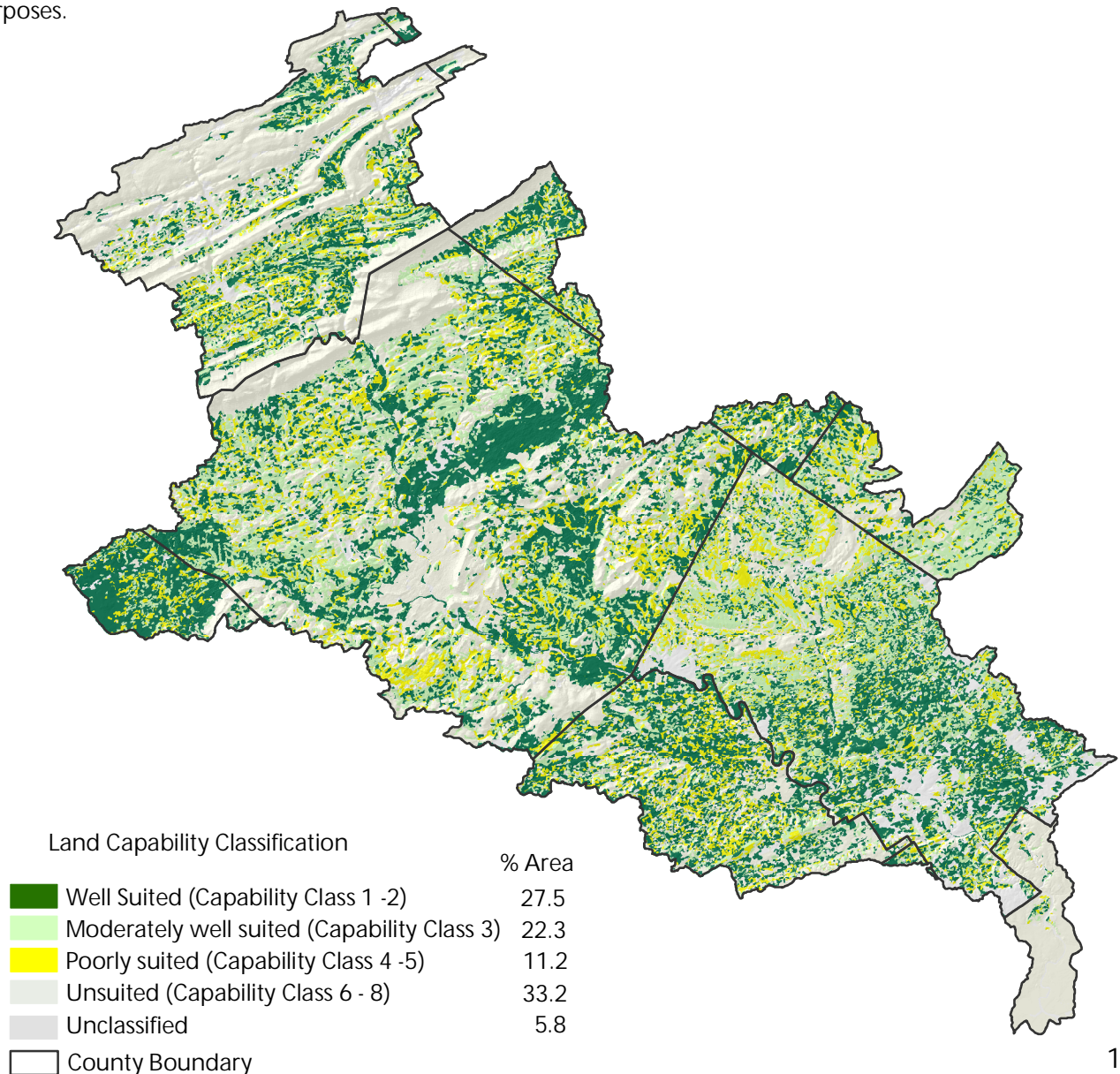
A soil map with an erodibility index (EI) of 8 or greater is considered to be highly erodible land (HEL). The EI for a soil map unit is determined by dividing the potential erodibility for the soil map unit by the soil loss tolerance (T) value established for the soil in the FOTG as of January 1, 1990. Potential erodibility is based on default values for rainfall amount and intensity, percent and length of slope, surface texture and organic matter, permeability, and plant cover. Actual erodibility and EI for any specific map unit depends on the actual values for these properties.





## Land Capability Classification

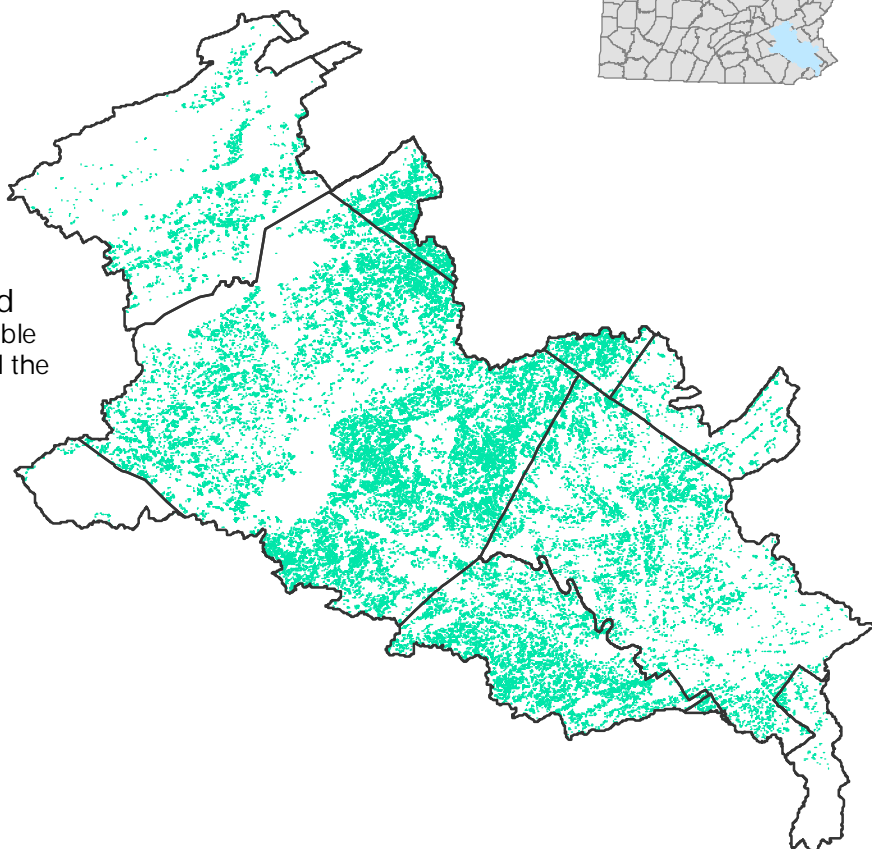
Land capability classification shows, in a general way, the suitability of soils for most kinds of field crops. Crops that require special management are excluded. The soils are grouped according to their limitations for field crops, the risk of damage if they are used for crops, and the way they respond to management. The criteria used in grouping the soils do not include major and generally expensive landforming that would change slope, depth, or other characteristics of the soils, nor do they include possible but unlikely major reclamation projects. Capability classification is not a substitute for interpretations that show suitability and limitations of groups of soils for rangeland, for woodland, and for engineering purposes.



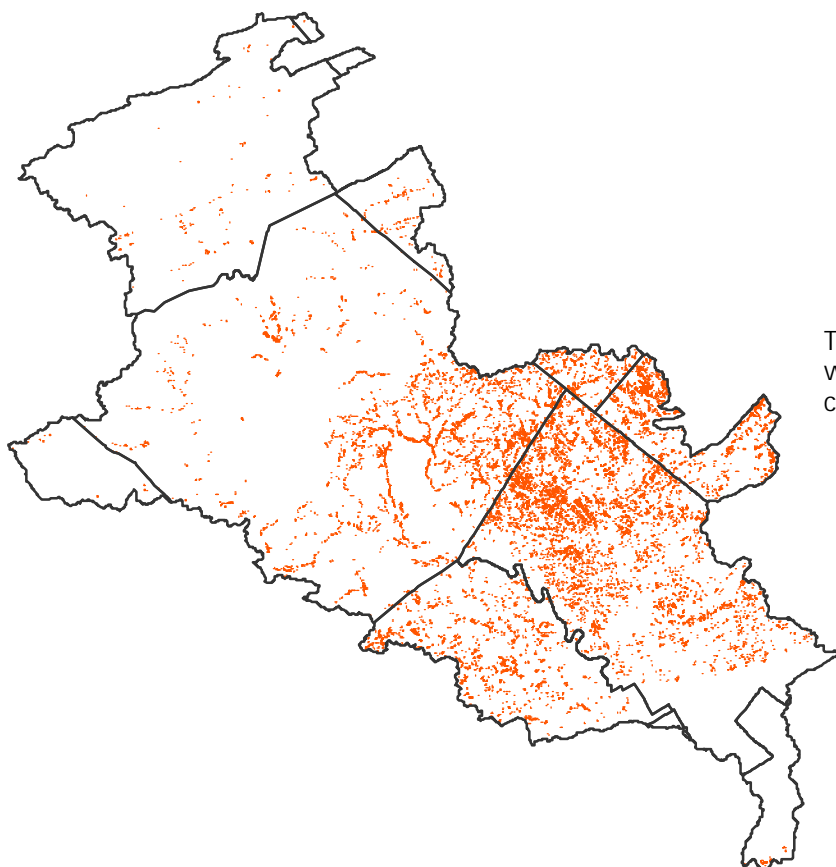




**Cropland on Highly Erodible Land**  
There are 43,552.3 acres on highly erodible land, which is approximately 22.9% of all the cultivated cropland in the watershed.



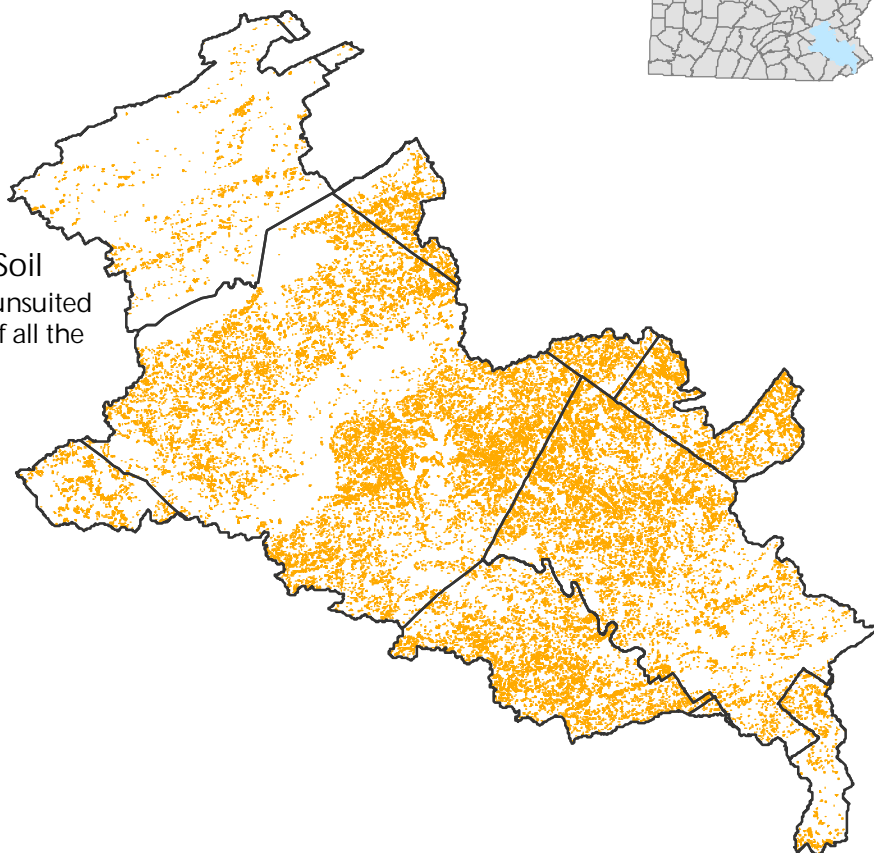
**Cropland on Hydric Soils**  
There are 9592.0 acres on hydric soils, which is approximately 5.0% of all the cultivated cropland in the watershed.



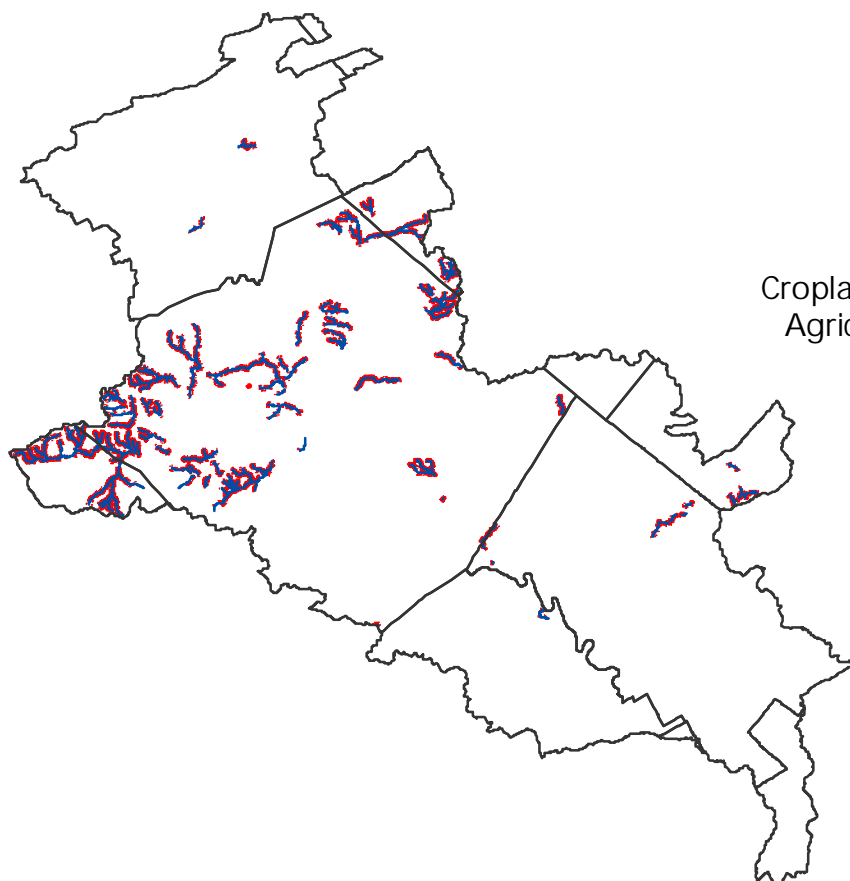


### Cropland on Poor or Unsited Soil

There are 37,621.0 acres on poor or unsited land, which is approximately 19.7% of all the cultivated cropland in the watershed.



### Cropland within 1000 feet of an Agricultural Impaired Stream





## Resource Concerns

Major resource concerns in the area include:

- erosion
- maintenance of organic matter
- soil productivity
- sedimentation
- conversion of nonurban land to urban

## Conservation Practices

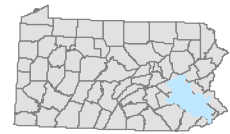
Common conservation practices for cropland:

- contour farming
- crop residue management
- cover crops
- stripcropping
- crop rotations
- nutrient management
- conservation tillage
- diversions
- grassed waterways
- riparian forest buffers



## PRS Performance Measures<sup>18</sup>

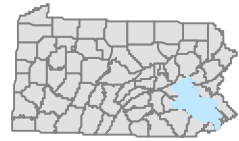
	FY99	FY00	FY01	FY02	FY03	FY04	FY05	FY06	Total
Total Conservation Systems Planned (acres)	12,710	37,436	11,879	15,009	11,574	NA	19,217	12,779	120,604
Total Conservation Systems Applied (acres)	3430	6822	6290	8951	8801	NA	17,230	10,809	62,333
Key Conservation Treatments									
Waste Storage Facility (number)	8	49	65	11	15	4	13	19	184
Riparian Forest Buffer (acres)	26	120	128	133	100	54	34	33	628
Erosion Control Total Soils Saved (tons/year)	3789	4576	5884	6262	5020	NA	NA	NA	25,531
Nutrient Management (acres)	572	10,649	7864	11,595	7900	687	3339	941	43,547
Pest Management (acres)	28	866	597	2671	205	485	1313	64	6,229
Prescribed Grazing (acres)	274	371	347	431	447	521	897	541	3,829
Tree and Shrub Establishment (acres)	2	0	77	83	22	45	1	511	741
Residue Management (acres)	4292	7033	6183	3890	2669	1866	11,969	298	38,200
Wildlife Habitat (acres)	82	330	898	1397	619	266	442	2132	6,166
Wetlands Created, Restored, or Established	0	4	27	41	6	0	0	33	111
Acres in Conservation Programs									
Conservation Technical Assistance									
Planned	6162	9629	6261	11,317	9604	NA	17,968	11,035	71,976
Applied	2168	3962	3112	6096	6155	NA	13,487	7674	42,654
Conservation Reserve Program									
Planned	418	28	2049	2424	902	NA	476	937	7,234
Applied	80	160	508	1149	780	NA	1517	1082	5,276
Environmental Quality Incentive Program									
Planned	905	69	0	143	916	NA	1174	1709	4,916
Applied	626	922	151	400	122	NA	1095	1246	4,562
Farmland Protection Policy/Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program									
Planned	325	1453	0	0	0	NA	441	0	2,219
Applied	151	110	0	0	0	NA	145	0	406
Forestry Incentive Program									
Planned	0	0	0	0	0	NA	0	0	0
Applied	0	0	0	0	0	NA	10	0	10
Grasslands Reserve Program									
Planned				0	0	NA	0	0	0
Applied				0	0	NA	0	0	0
Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative									
Planned	0	62	781						843
Applied	0	14	427						441
Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program									
Planned	61	0	0	0	3	NA	2	154	220
Applied	0	0	40	12	0	NA	38	179	269
Wetlands Reserve Program									
Planned	0	0	0	0	0	NA	0	0	0
Applied	0	0	0	0	0	NA	0	0	0
Conservation Security Program									
Planned							734	0	734
Applied							0	0	0



## Social and Census Data<sup>19</sup>

	Berks	Bucks	Carbon	Chester	Delaware	Lebanon	Lehigh	Montgomery	Philadelphia	Schuylkill	Total
Farms (number)	1562	109	4	439	1	162	125	604	3	348	3,357
Land in farms (acres)	188,072	9,143	366	38,510	(D)	18,385	18,443	40,015	(D)	46,043	358,977
Total cropland (acres)	151,050	6,990	265	28,470	14	15,074	14,757	27,755	7	32,514	276,896
Principal operator by primary occupation - Farming (number)	991	60	2	252	0	102	69	314	2	171	1,963
Farms by Size											
1 to 9 acres	198	22	1	49	0	22	18	106	3	33	452
10 to 49 acres	558	55	1	213	1	53	60	302	0	117	1,360
50 to 179 acres	500	21	2	133	0	57	30	147	0	139	1,029
180 to 499 acres	236	8	0	32	0	27	11	40	0	40	394
500 to 999 acres	58	2	0	8	0	2	3	8	0	14	95
1,000 acres or more	11	1	0	4	0	0	4	2	0	5	27
Livestock and Poultry											
Cattle and calves inventory (farms)	658	20	1	143	0	84	20	131	0	80	1,137
Cattle and calves inventory - Beef cows (farms)	193	11	0	48	0	22	13	65	0	37	389
Cattle and calves inventory - Milk cows (farms)	275	5	0	71	0	42	4	24	0	20	441
Hogs and pigs inventory (farms)	92	5	0	11	0	18	6	30	0	15	177
Sheep and lambs inventory (farms)	92	15	0	28	0	9	10	57	0	8	219
Layers 20 weeks old and older inventory (farms)	127	11	0	36	0	16	9	59	0	28	286
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold (farms)	48	2	0	4	0	7	2	8	0	10	81
Crops Harvested											
Corn for grain (acres)	31,695	1,657	19	5,631	(D)	3,726	5,245	4,619	0	7,186	59,778
Corn for silage or greenchop (acres)	23,643	255	10	3,138	0	3,427	261	1,975	0	1,862	34,571
Wheat for grain, all (acres)	8,474	343	8	1,088	0	999	1,504	1,332	0	2,085	15,833
Oats for grain (acres)	3,049	112	15	71	0	90	301	264	0	1,277	5,179
Barley for grain (acres)	3,420	10	1	424	0	519	203	85	0	314	4,976
Soybeans for beans (acres)	21,464	880	6	3,024	0	2,220	3,415	2,393	0	3,304	36,706
Forage - land used for all hay and all haylage, grass silage, and greenchop (acres)	43,949	1,909	85	9,910	3	3,568	2,196	9,319	0	7,450	78,389
Vegetables harvested for sale (acres)	889	182	7	179	(D)	216	99	862	5	512	2,951
Land in orchards (acres)	1,150	62	1	142	1	22	240	210	0	236	2,064
Total cropland harvested (acres)	134,382	5,952	199	23,300	7	10,430	13,397	21,100	(D)	26,448	235,215
Farm Operator by Ethnicity											
White	2382	159	6	656	2	239	183	878	3	495	5,003
Black or African American	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	3	0	0	6
Asian	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Hispanic	10	1	0	8	0	2	1	7	0	1	30
American Indian/Alaskan Native	3	0	0	2	0	1	1	5	0	0	12
Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Women	652	47	2	229	1	63	49	261	1	112	1,417

(D) - Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual farms



### Partnership Groups:

A cooperative project involving NRCS and conservation partners, including:

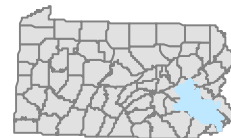
- State Conservation Commission
- Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
- Pennsylvania Game Commission
- Pennsylvania Grazing/Forage Lands Conservation Coalition
- Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission



## Footnotes/Bibliography

All data is provided "as is". There is no warranties, express or implied, including the warranty of fitness for a particular purpose, accompanying this document. Use for planning purpose only.

1. Common Resource Area  
Common Resource Area (CRA) delineation is defined as a geographical area where resource concerns, problems, or treatment needs are similar. More information can be found online at <http://soils.usda.gov/survey/geography/cra.html>
2. National Elevation Dataset (NED)  
The NED is a seamless mosaic of the best-available elevation data. The primary source data were the USGS 7.5-minute (30-meter or 10-meter resolution) DEM's. A hillshade grid was also created using the DEM and used to create a 3-D effect. More information on NED can be found online at <http://ned.usgs.gov/>
3. Land Use / Land Cover 2001  
Land Use / Land Cover map was created using the National Land Cover Dataset. The National Land Cover Dataset was compiled from Landsat satellite TM imagery with a spatial resolution of 30 meters and supplemented by various ancillary data (where available). More information can be found online at <http://landcover.usgs.gov/>
4. Average Annual Precipitation  
The average annual precipitation data for this map layer were produced through a partnership between NRCS and the Spatial Climate Analysis Service at Oregon State University (OSU). The average annual precipitation is from 1961 through 1990. More information can be found online at <http://www.ncgc.nrcs.usda.gov/products/datasets/climate/index.html>
5. National Wetlands Inventory (NWI)  
The NWI maps do not show all wetlands since the maps are derived from aerial photointerpretation with varying limitations due to scale, photo quality, inventory techniques, and other factors. More information can be found online at <http://www.fws.gov/nwi/>
6. Impaired Streams  
Impaired Streams were derived from Pennsylvania Department of Protection Office of Water Management, 2006 list on Non-Attaining Streams. More information can be found on DEP website at <http://www.depweb.state.pa.us/dep/site/default.asp>
7. Abandoned Mine Land  
Abandoned Mine Land data was received from the Office of Surface Mining. The data set shows the approximate location of Abandoned Mine Land Problem Areas containing public health, safety, and public welfare problems created by past coal mining. More information can be found online at <http://www.osmre.gov/osmaml.htm>
8. Exceptional Value and High Quality Streams  
Exceptional Value and High Quality Streams were taken from the Chapter 93 data layer received from Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. For more information on what qualifies a stream as exceptional value or high quality or any information on Chapter 93 streams go to <http://www.pacode.com/secure/data/025/chapter93/chap93toc.html>



## Footnotes/Bibliography

### 9. Pennsylvania Trout Waters

Pennsylvania Trout Water data is compiled by the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission. This layer was created based on the 1:24000 National Hydrography Dataset (NHD) water bodies layer. More information can be found online at

<http://www.fish.state.pa.us/fishpub/summary/troutwaters.html>

### 10. Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)

TMDL is the sum of the individual waste load allocations and load allocations which would not produce a violation of water quality standards. The data used is from 2003, the PA Department of Environmental Protection is currently working on updating the GIS data available. More information can be found on TMDL locations in PA at [http://www.dep.state.pa.us/watermanagement\\_apps/tmdl/](http://www.dep.state.pa.us/watermanagement_apps/tmdl/), and/or nationally at <http://www.epa.gov/owow/tmdl/>

### 11. Water Quality Testing Points

Water Quality Testing Points monitor water quality with emphasis on stream acidity in Pennsylvania with an associated database. The database contains more than 33,466 records on water quality from 1986 to the present from 622 testing sites throughout Pennsylvania. Information in the records includes alkalinity and Ph and includes nitrates and phosphates for some sites since 1996.

The information is maintained by the Alliance for Aquatic Resource Monitoring. More information can be found online at <http://alpha.dickinson.edu/storg/allarm/allarm%20projects/database.htm>

### 12. Water Resource Points

A Water Resource is a DEP primary facility type related to the Water Use Planning Program. More information can be found <http://www.depweb.state.pa.us/dep/site/default.asp>

### 13. Natural Heritage Inventory Sites

The Natural Areas polygons were developed by the Pennsylvania Natural Heritage Program (PNHP) County Natural Heritage Inventory (CNHI) Program. Natural Areas were identified using map and air photo interpretation, aerial reconnaissance, and field surveys. More information and county reports can be found online at <http://www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us/>

### 14. Pennsylvania Breeding Bird Atlas

Data was taken for the 1st Pennsylvania Breeding Bird Atlas (1992). For this watershed assessment, fourteen bird species were chosen to be focused on. More information about all bird species can be obtained at <http://www.carnegiemnh.org/atlas/home.htm>

### 15. Important Bird Areas

The Important Bird Areas Program (IBA) is a global effort to identify and conserve areas that are vital to birds and other biodiversity. For more information nationally and/or on the state level go to <http://www.audubon.org/bird/iba/>

### 16. Important Mammal Areas

Important Mammal Areas Project, IMAP, the first program of it's kind, was created by the Mammal Technical Committee of the Pennsylvania Biological Survey (PaBS). For more information go online to <http://www.pawildlife.org/imap.htm>





## Footnotes/Bibliography

### 17. Soils

Soil Survey spatial and tabular data were used for the following survey areas:

Berks County (PA011)  
Bucks County (PA017)  
Carbon County (PA025)  
Chester County (PA029)  
Delaware County (PA045)  
Lebanon County (PA075)  
Lehigh County (PA077)  
Montgomery County (PA091)  
Philadelphia County (PA101)  
Schuylkill County (PA107)

Spatial and tabular data can be downloaded at <http://soildatamart.nrcs.usda.gov/>

### 18. Performance Results System (PRS)

PRS data was extracted from PRS by year, conservation system, conservation practice, and programs by hydrologic unit code. More information can be found online at the PRS homepage

<http://ias.sc.egov.usda.gov/prshome/>

### 19. Social and Census Data

Ag census data and ethnicity data were downloaded from the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). The data was adjusted by percent of Hydrologic unit in the county. More information can be found online at [http://www.nass.usda.gov/Census\\_of\\_Agriculture/index.asp](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Census_of_Agriculture/index.asp)